

in the State of North Carolina which are situated within the present boundaries of the Marine Corps Aviation Base, Cherry Point, North Carolina: *Provided*, That in the event the area transferred pursuant to the provisions of this Act shall cease to be used for military purposes, it shall revert to its former national-forest status.

Approved December 17, 1943.

[CHAPTER 349]

AN ACT

December 17, 1943  
[S. 1544]  
[Public Law 204]

Authorizing the acquisition and conversion or construction of certain auxiliary vessels, landing craft, and district craft for the United States Navy, and for other purposes.

Navy.  
Auxiliary vessels,  
landing craft, and district craft.  
*Ante*, pp. 92, 156.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized to acquire and convert or to undertake the construction of two million five hundred thousand tons, or such portion thereof as may be directed by the President of auxiliary vessels and one million tons of landing craft and district craft, such auxiliary vessels, landing craft and district craft to be of such size, type, and design as the Secretary may consider best suited for the prosecution of the war, such vessels to be in addition to those heretofore authorized.

Appropriation authorized.  
*Post*, p. 627.  
Expenditures by Maritime Commission.

SEC. 2. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Act: *Provided*, That no sums expended by the Maritime Commission from funds appropriated to it for the construction of vessels which are transferred to the Navy shall be reimbursed from naval appropriations, except to the extent of agreements existing on the effective date of this Act: *Provided further*, That vessels acquired by the Navy from the Maritime Commission without reimbursement shall not be disposed of except by return to the Maritime Commission.

Disposition of certain vessels.

Approved December 17, 1943.

[CHAPTER 366]

AN ACT

December 17, 1943  
[H. R. 2080]  
[Public Law 205]

To provide temporary additional pay for equipment maintenance for each carrier in Rural Mail Delivery Service.

Rural Mail Delivery Service.  
Equipment maintenance.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That each carrier in Rural Mail Delivery Service shall be paid for equipment maintenance a sum equal to 1 cent per mile per day for each mile or major fraction of a mile scheduled in addition to the 5 cents per mile per day for each mile or major fraction of a mile scheduled as now provided by law. Payments for the additional equipment maintenance as provided herein shall be at the same periods and in the same manner as payments for regular compensation to rural carriers.

Appropriation authorized.

SEC. 2. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such amounts as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Effective period.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect immediately upon its enactment, and shall terminate June 30, 1945, or such earlier date as the Congress may by concurrent resolution prescribe.

Approved December 17, 1943.